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7 Tait Ave., Fort Erie
fess.dsb.org
Wednesday, November 19
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Port Colborne High School
211 Elgin St., Port Colborne
porthigh.dsb.org
Thursday, November 20
6:00 p.m.

Ridgeway - Crystal Beach
High School
576 Ridge Rd., Ridgeway
ridgewayhs.dsb.org
Wednesday, November 19
5:00 p.m.

GRIMSBY / LINCOLN

Beamsville District
Secondary School
4317 Central Ave., Beamsville
beamsville.dsb.org
Wednesday, November 19
6:30 p.m.

Grimsby Secondary School
5 Bultion Ave., Grimsby
grimsbyss.dsb.org
Tuesday, November 18
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

South Lincoln High School
260 Canborough St., Smithville
southlincoln.dsb.org
Thursday, November 20
6:30 p.m.

NIAGARA FALLS

A.N. Myer Secondary School
6338 O'Neil St., Niagara Falls
anmyer.dsb.org
Thursday, November 20
6:30 p.m.

Stamford Collegiate
Secondary School
5775 Drummond Rd.,
Niagara Falls
stamford.dsb.org
Tuesday, November 18
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Westlane Secondary School
5960 Pitton Rd., Niagara Falls
westlane.dsb.org
Wednesday, November 19
6:30 p.m.

ST. CATHARINES

Eden High School
535 Lake St., St. Catharines
eden.dsb.org
Monday, November 17
7:00 p.m.

Governor Simcoe Secondary School
15 Glenview Ave., St. Catharines
govsimcoe.dsb.org
Thursday, November 20
6:30 p.m.

Laura Secord Secondary School
349 Niagara St., St. Catharines
laurasecond.org
Wednesday, November 19
6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Registration starts at 6:00 p.m.

Sir Winston Churchill
Secondary School
101 Glen Morris Dr., St. Catharines
sirwinston.dsb.org
Thursday, November 20
6:30 p.m.

St. Catharines Collegiate
Secondary School
34 Catherine Street, St. Catharines
collegiate.dsb.org
Monday, November 17
6:00 p.m.

WELLAND / Fonthill / THOROLD

Eastdale Secondary School
170 Wellington Street, Welland
eastdale.dsb.org
Thursday, November 20
7:00 p.m.

E.L. Crossley Secondary School
350 Highway 20, Fonthill
elcrossley.dsb.org
Thursday, November 20
6:30 p.m.

Thorold Secondary School
50 Ormond St., N., Thorold
ts.dsb.org
Tuesday, November 18
6:30 p.m.

Welland Centennial
Secondary School
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centennial.dsb.org
Wednesday, November 19
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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2014

No Regrets

Vance Badawey wouldn't
do anything differently
Page 5

Holiday Spirit

Woman looking for
donations of toys, clothing
Page 8

sold

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Drone business takes off



MARYANNE FETTER/
STAFF PHOTO
Scott Tetrow,
of SWT-
Industries,
holds the
largest drone
model offered
by his Port
Colborne
company.
Please see
story page 2.

Margaret Ann
GIGANTI
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ROYAL LEPAGE
Margaret Ann Giganti (2013-2014)

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UPFRONT

BIZ BUZZ

Job loss propels drone business

Scott Tetroe stands in his front yard, remote control in hand and a big smile on his face.

He may look like he's playing around, as he manoeuvres a small aircraft through the sky, but the owner of SWT-Industries is actually hard at work.

Though it began as a hobby, mainly with remote-control helicopters and boats, Tetroe's passion was recently accelerated into a career.

It was his introduction to drones, as well as a lack of job prospects, that propelled the Port Colborne resident's decision to start his own business building the aircraft in his home-based workshop.

The former welding inspector at John Deere Welland Works lost his job when the company closed its Dain City plant in 2008.

Tetroe spent years struggling to find gainful employment and was eventually referred by Port Cares to Ontario Office Works in Welland, which offers government-funded programming to help entrepreneurs on Ontario Works or those receiving unemployment to get their vision off the ground.

In April, he started the program, which runs until December, and launched his company.

"I'm good with computers, the technical side, but I'm no good with bookkeeping," he says with a laugh. The program, he says, has provided him the business sense he needs to be successful moving forward.

Through SWT-Industries,



Scott Tetroe, of SWT-Industries, holds the smallest drone model offered by his Port Colborne company.

Tetroe builds, programs and sells custom drones in a variety of models, while also offering repair services and parts replacement.

With the popularity of drones only expected to grow, Tetroe hopes to make his mark in the industry as it

readies to skyrocket.

"I wanted to get on board before a major company moves in and takes over," says the husband and father-of-two.

"I want to be the guy that can build it, maintain it, fix it. We do everything here."

The ready-to-fly models SWT offers range in size from six inches to six feet, the latter of which can carry about 40 pounds of video equipment.

The company also offers video services, including production and editing

from Tetroe's Port Colborne workshop.

"There are just so many uses for them," the 42-year-old says of the drones, which have been making their mark in a number of industries. The aircraft, he says, are now being used to inspect pipe-

lines in Canada's western provinces and have been used for emergency search and rescue initiatives.

With ever-changing Canadian regulations regarding the new technology, Tetroe says he keeps a watchful eye on what he can and cannot use drones for.

Safety precautions, knowledge of regulations and plenty of practice are key, he adds.

Not flying the device out of sight or too high, and only flying over property where he has permission to do so top his checklist when taking off.

While interest in the company has been growing in Niagara, Tetroe is also hoping to expand SWT's reach to customers across Canada and the globe.

He plans to host local events in the near future to further inform the public about drones and their capabilities.

For more information, visit swt-industries.blogspot.ca.

■ ■ ■
Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce is hosting its fall business trade show on Thursday, Nov. 6.

The free show runs from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Italian Canadian Cultural Centre, 223 Bell St. in Port Colborne and includes exhibits, samples and demonstrations.

Booths can still be reserved by calling 905-732-7515 or e-mailing adlin@pcwchamber.com.

The Tribune's Biz Buzz column appears every Wednesday, if you have a business tip, send it to marianne.firth@sunmedia.ca or call 905-684-7251 ext. 1144.

MARIYANNE FIRTH/STAFF PHOTO

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LOCAL NEWS

ELECTION

Badawey 'wouldn't do anything different'

MARYANNE FIRTH
QMI Agency Niagara

Vance Badawey has no regrets.

Though his bid to become Port Colborne's regional councillor was unsuccessful Monday night, he stands behind his decision to not seek re-election as the lakeside city's mayor.

Incumbent David Barrick defeated Badawey 3,725 votes to 3,163 to claim the regional seat. Former Liberal MP John Maloney was elected Port Colborne's new mayor.

"It's like I said to my team (Monday) night. You can't look at the glass half empty," Badawey said Tuesday.

"Seventeen years. We've had a great ride. We've accomplished a lot and we should be proud of that."

Badawey served 14 years as Port Colborne's mayor. In 2003, after two consecutive terms in the mayor's seat, he made an unsuccessful bid to become the member of provincial parliament in what was then the Erie-Lincoln riding. He was re-elected as the lakeside city's mayor in 2006, a position he has held since.

In analyzing his most recent campaign, Badawey said he "wouldn't do anything different."

He did, however, admit that his "very heavy schedule" did prevent him from "hitting all the doors I wanted to."

Through the campaign, his focus

remained on continuing without interruption the work he's been doing at both the municipal and regional levels.

In a Tribune interview Friday, Badawey for the first time publicly declared his intentions to seek the regional chair position, which is no longer possible due to a policy adopted in 2013 that ensures the position is filled by a regional councillor.

Prior to the policy adoption, anyone could put their name forward to become regional chair.

"I did support that then and I still support it now," Badawey said.

Asked if he had any intentions of throwing his hat into the ring to become the city's representative for the 2015 federal election, Badawey replied: "Right now, I just need some time."

Badawey said he always strives to leave things better than how he found them. He believes during his time in the mayor's seat his team of city hall staff and volunteers were successful in doing that in Port Colborne.

"It's all about working together as a community to ensure we leave it better than we found it."

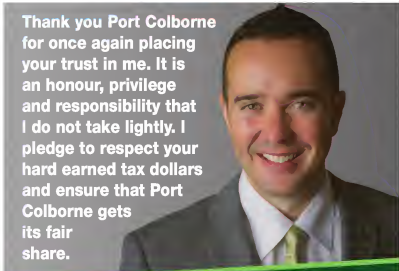
Though his role will change going forward, Badawey said his involvement in the lakeside city will not end.

maryanne.firth@summedia.ca
Twitter: @mfrith14bure



SUBMITTED
PHOTO
Vance
Badawey.

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Grant LaFliche

GRANT RANT! #*&*!!

'Social experiment' videos sometimes of value

By now, if you are the sort (like me) who watches a lot of YouTube, you've likely seen the growing number of "social experiment" videos that have been popping up over the last year or so.

Now, when I say "social experiment," I am not suggesting these are at all, in anyway, scientific. In most cases, they are less scientific than most election polls and we know how accurate those have been recently.

For the most part, these videos are designed, not to catalogue a social phenomenon, but to conjure up a visceral emotional response. There are several about poverty that are particularly effective in this regard. A Norway children's centre has a video titled "Would you give your jacket to Johannes" (www.youtube.com/watch?v=1906j9QZc8) that is sure to bring a tear to your eye.

More recently, following the Islamist inspired murders in Quebec and Ottawa, a university student filmed an "experiment" with one actor being a racist jerk to another dressed in traditional Muslim clothing to

gauge the reaction of people standing by. Most people shouted down the "racist," including one guy who hauled off and punched him in the face.

Of course, we learned nothing from this particular effort because we already have a real life example of Canadians rallying behind their brothers and sisters. Residents of Ottawa helped out a local mosque that was vandalized after the Parliament Hill shooting. The video merely confirms what we already know about ourselves as a nation.

There is another social experiment video, though, that may actually show us something of value.

The people at Rob Bliss Creative wanted to take a look at street-level harassment of women and filmed an actress walking silently through New York City for 10 hours. She was dressed in a plain black T-shirt and jeans and did not speak to anyone. She just went for a stroll.

(Watch the video here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1XGPvWn0A>)

The result was a rather uncomfortable little film. Some of the comments tossed

at the actress were innocuous enough. A lot of hellos, how are yous and have a good days.

But there were a lot of straight-up ugly advances, insults and derogatory comments launched at her. A few men got agitated when the actress did not acknowledge they had just shouted out that she was "beautiful," as though she was violating some kind of sacred social convention to respond to the advances of strange men. (Guess what fellas, she isn't obligated to talk to you, and getting angry about it is just a level of stupid that burns.)

More than one man, when she did not respond to these caveman advances, actually followed her down the street, escalated their harassment to truly stalkerish levels.

"You don't want to talk? Because I'm ugly?" said one delusional Casanova who followed the actress. "We can't be friends, nothing!"

No, dullstone, you can't. If someone doesn't want to talk to you, they don't have to and chasing them down the street just makes you a creep. Your ugliness has nothing

to do with your appearance.

In total, the filmmakers said they recorded more than 100 instances of harassment during those 10 hours. No, this is not scientific strictly speaking, but it is telling.

Maybe my mother just raised me right, or maybe I am something of a social dinosaur, but this sort of troglodyte behaviour is poor form to say the least.

There are those who will argue that she should have smiled, or said thank you or whatever. Those who think that are wronger than a three dollar bill.

I have yet to meet a woman who is a fan of being shouted at by strangers while going about their business, particularly strangers who get angry when their advances are ignored.

It would be interesting to do the same thing in Toronto, or even in Niagara, just to make the point. But even so, if you're the type to do this sort of thing, stop it. Would you want someone barking like that to your mother, sister, best friend or wife?

No? Then why would you do it?



grant.lafliche@sunmedia.ca



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Shipwrecks – Lyminge

SKIP GILLMAN
For QMI Agency Niagara

The 123.61-metre-long *Lyminge*, a British cargo ship, was built at Dundee, Scotland, in 1967.

The vessel sailed under the British flag for Constants Ltd. and made one trip through the St. Lawrence Seaway during its first year. It returned from time to time before being sold to Yugoslavian interests in 1975.

The ship was then renamed *Krpanj* and

returned to the Great Lakes in 1976. The 4,980 gross tonne freighter could carry up to 7,500 tonnes at salivater draft and was banded in the four cargo holds.

The name was changed to *Rapan* in 1989 with registry in Malta and then it became *Pan* for Theosis Maritime Ltd., also Maltese flag, in 1994.

Pan went around near Gibraltar on Feb. 15, 1996, and became a total loss. Efforts to salvage the ship failed and the hull had to be broken up for scrap where it came ashore.



RENE BOUCHARD PHOTO

Lyminge pictured in Montreal in May 1970.



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LOCAL NEWS

IN BRIEF

Poppy campaigns launch Friday

Peiham, Port Colborne and Welland branches of the Royal Canadian Legion will each launch their annual poppy campaigns Friday. The symbolic flower pins will be available at businesses and schools

throughout the communities in exchange for donations that support veterans' needs.

In addition to offering 12,000 poppies, Branch 613 in Fortnihil

is also selling poppy-patterned bracelets for \$2 and Support Our Troops car magnets for \$5. All proceeds will support local veterans.



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Thank You Port Colborne!



May I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all those that supported our run for Regional Council and to the residents of Port Colborne for 17 wonderful years representing you as a City Councillor, Mayor and Regional Councillor.

It truly was an honour and privilege to have worked with a team at the city, the region, our residents, businesses and our many volunteers. Each and every one of you continues to make a positive difference toward building a stronger community.

I offer congratulations and best wishes to those that will lead our community and the region in the future.

Vance Badawey

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LOCALNEWS

■ **COMMUNITY:** Donations of gently used items wanted for free Christmas event

Green ELFS in need of toys

MARYANNE FIRTH
QMI Agency Niagara

Forget your wallet at home. For this Christmas shopping experience, all you'll need is a bag filled with canned goods.

Niagara Region Helping Green ELFS' (Ever Loving Family Support) annual Family Free Christmas Shopping Event, which returns to Port Colborne's Guild Hall Nov. 22, allows shoppers to pick out gently used items free of charge in exchange for non-perishable food items for Port Cares.

But before the festivities get underway, donations of new or gently used clothing, toys, sporting goods, linens and other items are needed to stock the shelves.

Donations are accepted at the home of organizer Lisa Green, 1 Bishop Rd in Welland, as well as a number of locations in St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Thorold.

An advance Port Colborne drop-off location is still being sought. Donations can be dropped off at The Guild Hall on the day of the event from 8 a.m. to noon.

Shoppers will be invited in from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

To volunteer for the event, schedule a pickup or for more information on drop-off locations, e-mail greenelfs@worldgmi.com or call 905-735-2680.

While there is no cost to participate in the event — also featuring free treats, hot chocolate, a craft table, face painting and live entertainment by The Music Depot — people are asked to register in advance online at helping-greenelfs.webs.com.

More than 200 families have already registered. Though the event is held in Port Colborne, people from across the region are encouraged to attend.

The 2013 event drew more than 2,000 people and collected nearly 4,000 pounds of food for Port Cares.

Donations have begun to roll in, but Green said toys are still "desperately" needed,



MARYANNE FIRTH/STAFF PHOTO

Niagara Region Helping Green ELFS founder Lisa Green, right, and her family, from left, Geoff, Riddian, Hunter and Syler Green, are collecting donations of toys, clothing and other items for the annual Family Free Christmas Shopping Event, held Nov. 22 in Port Colborne.

particularly those geared toward children aged five to 10, as well as winter coats and sporting goods, such as skates.

Books are in abundance for the sale, with a business donating enough to fill an 1,100-square-foot storage space.

Green encouraged people to donate what they can to support the cause and ease the financial difficulties many families face around the holi-

days.

The event, she added, is a prime opportunity for children to do their Christmas shopping while also learning

the important lesson of giving back to the community.

maryanne.firth@summedia.ca
Twitter: @mfrthbune

■ **POLITICS:** Some claim it will only help those with higher income

Income splitting tax break for families

TONY RICCIUTO
OMI Agency Niagara

The Conservative government claims their income-splitting package of tax breaks will help families in Canada, but critics of the plan say most households will receive nothing because the majority of people don't fit the criteria.

On Thursday, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced a scaled-down version of his party's 2011 campaign commitment to allow income-splitting by parents with children under

the age of 18 and an expansion of the universal child-care benefit.

When that election promise was made, it was contingent on the federal books being balanced. Earlier this month, the prime minister said the budget will not be balanced this year.

The "family tax cut" will allow an eligible taxpayer to transfer up to \$50,000 of income to his or her spouse for tax purposes in order to collect a non-refundable tax credit of up to \$2,000 per year. In addition, the

"This is a combination of a couple of things," said Rob Nicholson, defence minister and MP for Niagara Falls.

*It allows the higher income spouse to transfer taxable income to the spouse that is presumably staying at home, and as well there are increased benefits for everyone who has children under the age of 18. People with children under the age of six will get an increase in their benefit to \$160 per month for each

child. And there's something new, \$60 per month for children aged six through 17."

Nicholson said the Conservative government believes families are a priority and they are also doubling the child fitness tax credit, which goes from \$500 to \$1,000.

The minister said the country's finances are on track and the government will be able to manage the latest tax breaks.

"We have worked very well at reducing the deficit, but it is one of the things we did talk about at the last election and we are moving forward on it," he added.

Betty-Lou Souter, chief executive officer for Community Care of St. Catharines and Thorold, said the tax breaks will do more to help those who are in the higher income bracket than those with less income.

"It won't help people who are in poverty because their income threshold isn't where it needs to be, but what they have done that is positive is the child tax benefit. Every little bit helps and hopefully that will help some people," said Souter. "In terms of income-splitting, we have a lot of single parents and many peo-

ple who are not making anywhere near the kind of money that it will take for it to be of benefit.*

The Broadbent Institute, an independent and non-partisan organization in Ottawa, says 89.9% of Canadian households will not benefit from the income-splitting scheme. One in five families have single parents and three in 10 families have partners who are in the same tax bracket.

"The Conservatives are trying to put lipstick on a pig. The greatest benefits would still go to the highest income earners with stay-at-home spouses, but would do little for low-income families most in need of support, many of whom earn too little to receive the benefit," said Rick Smith, the Institute's executive director.

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INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

■ WELLAND

Veterinarian recognized for work with animals on reserve

DAN DAKIN
Tribune Staff

A veterinarian who helps care for animals at the Welland and District Humane Society has been given a national award for her work.

Tammy Hornak, who started an animal rescue charity called Canon's Cause seven years ago, was named the first recipient of the Pets Plus US Community Outreach Award.

"She has done some tremendous work with the First Nations," said Randy Valpy, who heads up the Oakville-based pet insurance company Pets Plus Us.

There were seven awards

handed out by the company across Canada this year. More than 160 nominations were entered for the awards and there were 70,000 votes cast in an online poll.

"This is our first year of doing it, but we'll make it an annual thing and make it bigger next year," Valpy said. "I wish we could have handed out 166 awards because the stories were incredible."

Hornak is a veterinarian based in Caledonia but spends one day a week working at the Welland and District Humane Society. She was nominated by OSPCA CEO Kate MacDonald.

The Canon's Cause organiza-

tion was started as a way to find adopters for sick and injured dogs and cats that might not otherwise be able to find homes.

Much of the work has involved animals from the Six Nations of the Grand River. The organization was named after a border collie she rescued that was found with broken back legs and heartworm.

"We use him as our spokesdog because everyone should have the will to live he does in spite of everything he's had to face," Hornak said.

For winning the award, Hornak was given a \$1,500 donation from Pets Plus Us for Canon's Cause.



DAN DAKIN/
STAFF PHOTO
Veterinarian
Tammy
Hornak looks
over Petra
the dog at
the Welland
and District
Humane
Society
Thursday.
Hornak
was given a
national
award for her
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■ **HEALTH:** Vaccination clinics being set up all around Niagara

Face the need to fight the flu

ROB HOULE
QMI Agency Niagara

It's that time of year again — flu-shot season.

While it's not quite flu season, Niagara Region's public health department is encouraging residents to get ahead of the virus by getting a flu shot as soon as possible.

It takes about two weeks for the influenza vaccination to give you protection. So the earlier you get your vaccination, the

earlier you're protected," said Mustafa Hirji, a resident physician with the public health department.

The cost of the vaccinations is covered by the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care and is available to anyone from the age of six months and up.

In addition to physicians, trained pharmacists at 2,400 pharmacies across the province can vaccinate people five years of age and older. The region's

public health department will hold a number of clinics where no appointment is necessary.

"The reason it's important (people get vaccinated) is that influenza is a disease that affects thousands of people in Canada every year, and getting a vaccination is one of the best things you can do to protect yourself, your children, your parents — any of your loved ones," Hirji said.

Concerns about the safety of

the vaccine or the fear it will give an individual the flu are unfounded, Hirji said.

"Influenza vaccine will 100% not give you influenza," he said.

"It's absolutely not possible." Those who make those claims, Hirji said, likely contracted another virus that exhibited similar symptoms to the flu or "were one of the unlucky ones where it didn't protect them from getting influenza. But they still got some protection, because it was milder."

The vaccine contains no live virus, Hirji said, and is created from a dead virus and some proteins.

Once injected, the body's immune system sees the proteins as foreign invaders and kills them. The immune system then builds up a memory of that foreign invader and will kill it should it enter the body again.

"I kind of think of this as working out," Hirji said. "You go lift weights not because you need to go lift those weights, but to build up your muscles so when you do need the muscles you have them."

"This is the same — we're giving you some proteins that look like the influenza virus to fight, so that when the influenza virus does come along your immune system is ready to fight."

Getting vaccinated is not a guarantee you won't get the flu.

"Sadly, nothing is 100% guaranteed in life and that includes the vaccination, but most people who get vaccinated will not get influenza," Hirji said. "Of the people who still get influenza, for the most part they're going to get a milder form of influenza, so they will be less ill."

Ontario's interim chief medical officer of health encourages all Ontarians to get vaccinated.

"Influenza is a preventable acute respiratory illness that for some Ontarians can cause hospitalization and even death," Dr. David Mowat said in a news release. "I urge all Ontarians to protect themselves and get the flu shot — particularly children and seniors, who are the most vulnerable to serious complications."

For a list of Niagara Region's vaccination clinics, go to www.niagararegion.ca/health.

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IAN KUCERBAK/
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■ ROAD SAFETY

Police warn about dangers of car vs. deer collisions

DAN DAKIN
Times Staff

Chuck Taylor will never forget the feeling of driving blind when his car slammed into a deer while driving on a rural Niagara Falls road.

"It happened so fast. You might think you can take evasive action, but there just isn't time," he said.

Taylor knows his crash could have been much worse.

It was 8 p.m. on a fall evening and when his car hit the deer, it blew out his headlights and tipped the hood from its latch, causing it to flip up and cover the windshield.

"I was still moving, but totally blind," Taylor said. "It was a sickening sound and feeling. For an instant, I thought that it was a person." Collisions involving alcohol, distracted driving or sleepy drivers can often be avoided with education and responsible drivers.

Crashes involving deer and other wildlife, however, are far more difficult to see coming.

"Those kinds of crashes are very hard to predict and avoid. The hardest part is they just dart in front of cars," said Staff Sgt. Jan Idzenga of the Ontario Provincial Police Niagara Detachment.

On Friday, a deer collided with a car carrying a woman and her two-month-old baby in West Lincoln. There were no serious injuries, but the baby received some cuts from broken glass.

The passenger of an SUV in London seven weeks ago wasn't so lucky. A 67-year-old woman was killed when a deer that had been struck by an SUV travelling in the opposite direction crashed through the windshield in front of her.

Idzenga said in 2013 there were 197 collisions involving vehicles and deer or other animals on OPP-patrolled highways in Niagara. That was on pace with the annual average of around 200 crashes of that type. Niagara Regional Police do not specifically track data on collisions involving animals.

Hitting a deer can cause extensive damage to a vehicle and could result in serious injuries to the occupants, Idzenga said.

The worst areas for these types of collisions are the smaller highways surrounded by large treed areas such as Hwy. 140, Hwy. 3 and Hwy. 58.

But sometimes "you find them in areas you totally wouldn't expect them," he said. "Even in the built-up areas, you'd be surprised where you see them."

The crashes typically happen from early evening and through the night, but as Friday's daytime collision in West Lincoln proved, deer and other wild animals can dart into oncoming traffic at any time.

"It's a situation people have to be mindful of," he said. "It's very tough to avoid, but when you're driving down

the highway where there are areas of forest and grazing areas, you want to slow down and glance down the shoulders and fence lines."

Idzenga said the closer to the speed limit drivers are travelling, the more likely they are to avoid hitting a deer. Not driving while distracted is also important.

"It makes a difference because you have more reaction time,"

he said.

Also important to realize is deer typically travel in groups.

"There are going to be more than one. If you see one and avoid it, don't think you're safe," he said.

When it comes to smaller animals like squirrels, chipmunks or cats, Idzenga said swerving to avoid them could have devastating consequences.

"If you swerve to avoid an animal and go into ongoing traffic and hit another car, you can imagine what the outcome will be," he said. "You're best to hold your course and hang on tight. You don't want to kill things, but sometimes you have to stay in control."

dan.dakin@sunmedia.ca
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LOCAL NEWS

#NIAGARAVOTES

Advanced polls up but turnout down

OREO FURRINGER
Tribune Staff

Strong turnouts at advanced polls don't necessarily mean good showings on election day.

As a matter of fact, what went up across Niagara surely came down Monday.

Such was the case for Welland, which saw voter turnout tank on election day although advanced polling figures were well up.

With 37,926 registered voters,

the Rose City saw only 13,568 ballots returned, representing a voter turnout of 35.8%.

Welland's turnout has been in a continual decline since the 2000 election, when 55% of electors voted.

Thorold voters, similarly, were anxious to make their choices.

Despite a whopping 100% increase in advanced poll turnout for Thorold, its unofficial final turnout is 36.9% — despite a much closer mayor's race there,

decided by 43 votes, and also the lowest turnout for that city in the past five elections.

In Port Colborne, 6,990 of its 15,298 eligible electors cast votes — representing a 45.66% turnout — its lowest since 2000, when turnout was 29.4% when Vance Badawey was acclaimed to a second term as mayor. It had been expected turnout would be up Monday, with Badawey relinquishing the mayor's seat a second time, for what emerged as a

close battle for regional council — one he lost.

Next door, the majority of eligible voters actually did vote.

Wainfleet, which adopted vote-by-mail, had 5,846 registered electors and saw 3,066 completed ballots returned, representing a turnout of 52.45%.

"We're pretty happy with it," said township CAO Scott Luey. "We tried to make the election more accessible by vote-by-mail."

In the coming days, he will try to get a better handle on whether turnout was at its highest point for at least the past five elections of the voting method, or because of the campaigning by candidates. He was hoping to break the 3,000 mark, knowing "there's a certain amount of apathy out there."

Continued on Page 15

Niagara voter turnout for the past five elections

	2000	2003	2006	2010	2014
Port Erie	29.0	34.0	37.0	41.0	43.7
Grimsbey	46.1	47.3	44.8	39.0	42.4
Lincoln-33.4	35.8	34.0	37.0	37.5	42.4
Niagara Falls	40.3	47.8	41.3	43.0	36.7
NOTL	NA	44.0	47.0	49.0	48.5
Pelham	42.5	49.4	48.6	45.0	43.93
Port Colborne	29.4	49.6	51.7	51.0	45.66
St. Catharines	27.0	29.7	40.7	31.0	34.3
Thorold	47.6	39.0	40.7	40.0	36.9
Wainfleet	43.6	33.6	43.4	49.0	52.45
Welland	55.0	44.8	42.4	41.0	35.8
West Lincoln	38.8	39.3	37.3	37.0	37.46



CITY OF PORT COLBORNE NOTICE TO CITIZENS APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

The City of Port Colborne is accepting applications from citizens for positions on the following boards and committees. The vacancies are due to the expiry of current appointments or resignations or insufficient applications in response to prior recruitments. Positions are available on the following boards/committees:

- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Cerebral Palsy Advisory Committee
- Committee of Adjustment
- Environmental Advisory Committee
- Heritage Port Colborne (Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee)
- Port Colborne Energy Inc.
- Port Colborne Fibre Inc.
- Port Colborne Hygro Inc.
- Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum Board
- Port Colborne Medical Education, Recruitment and Health Services Committee
- Port Colborne Public Library Board
- Port Colborne Transit Advisory Committee
- Property Standards Committee
- Port Colborne Senior Citizen Advisory Council
- Livestock Valuer

Appointments to fill expired terms will be for four years. Appointments to fill other vacancies will be for the term of the original appointment. Incumbent members whose terms are expiring are eligible to apply and to be reappointed to the same committee provided they maintain the eligibility requirements.

On November 10, 2008, Council adopted a policy respecting appointments to boards and committees. This policy establishes the process relating to the recruitment, selection and appointment of members of the public to boards and committees and the City's expectations of such appointees. The policy requires that the successful applicants consent to the release by the City of their name and personal information relating to their education, qualifications and experience which is pertinent to the appointment. Council will release the name of an unsuccessful applicant only with the written consent of the applicant. Please visit the City's website www.portcolborne.ca to access the full text of the policy and a brief description of the mandate of the above Committees, etc.

Unless the terms of reference of the board/committee provide otherwise, applicants must:

- be eighteen years of age or older
- a qualified municipal elector in the City of Port Colborne
- not be disqualified by the Municipal Act, 2001, Municipal Election Act, 1996 or the Planning Act
- not be an employee of the City of Port Colborne or the board.

Applicants must provide sufficient information regarding their qualifications and related experience for Council to make an informed decision. The standard form of application is available on the City's website www.portcolborne.ca and/or from the Clerk's Office.

Applications in person, by e-mail or regular mail will be received by the undersigned up to and including November 21, 2014.

Ashley Grigg, City Clerk
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Personal information is collected under authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 and pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only to evaluate the suitability of applicants. Questions respecting the collection of information should be directed to the Clerk of the City of Port Colborne.

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■ **#NIAGARAVOTES:** Advanced poll numbers were up, but Monday's turnout was way down

Early returns slump on election day

From Page 14

In Pelham, based only on the 6,076 votes cast for mayor, turnout was 43.93%, said clerk Nancy Bozzato of a figure down only slightly from 2010.

People must be cautioned,

though.

All "final" numbers are not yet official.

And people who try to do a comparison of numbers between votes cast for mayoral races and for council candi-

dates should be reminded that voters do not always choose a mayoral candidate or those running for municipal councils or school boards. As one example, of the 6,990 ballots cast in Port Colborne, 48 were

returned without a registering selection for mayor.

In some cases, candidates will encourage their supporters to "plunk" — vote only for them to better their chances of winning a seat.

Elsewhere in the region, where another strong mayoral race had been shaping up, St. Catharines voter turnout was at 34.3%, up from 31% in 2010.

"But that's still pretty abysmal," said David Siegel, a Brock University politics professor who has done much study on Niagara's elections.

He said many municipal clerks he spoke to prior to Monday indicated that in recent years' elections, voter turnout has been increasing at advanced polls.

He said some have gone as far as to encourage early voting — which he's against, although admitted he did so himself for convenience sake.

"I think there's a reason we have an election campaign," he said, suggest-

ing candidates should be given that full period to get their messages to voters.

Turnout in Niagara Falls was 36.7% — a low figure for a municipality that generally breaks the 40% threshold, and which for this election saw a 9% spike in early voting. It was there that Jim Diodati was re-elected with 17,968 votes compared to the 1,931 votes of the second-placed finisher of three challengers.

"The increase in turnout at the advanced polls was, obviously, offset by the voting day," said city clerk Dean Iorrida.

"As weather wasn't a factor (Monday), I would surmise that our low turnout was due to a less than competitive mayor's race, which often drives turnout."

Such was not the case for Thorold.

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Halloween party leads to fire call

A fog machine used for a Halloween event at a Welland public school resulted in a few

scary moments Friday morning. Just after 10 a.m. Friday, a fog machine being used for a Halloween party at Ross School on Niagara St. in Welland set off the school's smoke alarms. The Welland Fire Department responded and the school's staff and 200 students all headed outside.

Principal Patti Lett said the fire department made sure everything was fine and then the kids headed back inside to resume their Halloween activities.

Abandoned building burns down

Police are investigating after a vacant farm house in West Lincoln burned to the ground late Thursday night.

Niagara Regional Police

spokesman Const. Derek Watson said the West Lincoln Fire Department was called to a single-storey house on Concession Rd. 5 at 10:40 p.m. and arrived to find the empty building fully engulfed in flames. There were no injuries, but the farm house, which had been vacant for about 20 years, was completely destroyed.

Watson said the blaze is considered suspicious.

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LAXATIVES AND CONSTIPATION

Very rarely does a day go by where there isn't a question about constipation from a patient stopping by the pharmacy. Most patients want to know what they should take that is available without a prescription.

Constipation is a symptom that occurs when waste moves too slowly through the body, resulting in stool that is dry and hard. This often makes it difficult and painful to pass.

Some medications such as antidepressants, water pills, and certain pain killers (such as Oxycodone and Codeine) may cause constipation.

The frequency of bowel movements varies from person to person, from as little as twice a week to a couple of times a day, and is affected by diet, medications, and exercise.

If you are having trouble going to the washroom, the first thing a pharmacist will usually recommend is increasing the amount of fibre in the diet by eating whole grains, fruits and vegetables. In addition, drinking at least 8 glasses of water will minimize constipation.

If these suggestions do not work, there are several options available to you.

For short-term treatment of constipation, (if you haven't been to the washroom in several days), a saline laxative such as Milk of Magnesia can be tried. Alternatively glycerin suppositories work quite well. If symptoms still do not resolve you could consider an enema with the advice of your physician.

Stimulant laxatives such as Dulcolax and Senokot can also be used to maintain regularity. If you are on long term narcotic therapy you may need to take these types of medications as long as you are taking the narcotics.

For long-term treatment of constipation, bulk-forming agents such as Metamucil or Prodiem Plan can be used. These bulk-forming agents increase the stool weight, allowing the stool to pass through the body faster and cause more frequent bowel movements. These agents typically take about 12-72 hours to take effect and are usually safe to use for long periods of time. When taking bulk-forming agents, it is recommended to drink lots of fluid.

For young children there are a few options. For immediate relief a pediatric glycerin suppository can be tried. For chronic long term management PEG 3350 is often prescribed, or is available over-the-counter as LAX-A-Day. You should consult your family doctor however if you want to try an oral medication for a child suffering from chronic constipation.

If you are not having trouble going to the washroom, but you find the stool to be too hard and painful to pass, the pharmacist may recommend a stool softener such as Colace (docusate sodium) that will soften the stool for increased comfort.

Before deciding on a therapy, talk to a pharmacist and they can help you decide on a treatment that is right for you.

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LOCAL NEWS

IN
BRIEF

Former dental office worker facing fraud charges

A former employee of a dental office is facing fraud charges after a police investigation that started in March. Niagara Regional Police said

in a release Wednesday the service received a complaint from an unidentified Niagara-on-the-Lake dental office on March 14 regarding a suspected fraud by a former

employee. Following an investigation by the NRP's central fraud unit, Julie Dickson, 39, was arrested Wednesday and charged with two counts of

fraud over \$5,000 and one count of falsifying books and documents. She was being held in custody pending a bail hearing.

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New Carousel Players AD

Carousel Players has a new artistic director. The St. Catharines

touring company for young audiences, currently in its 43rd season, has chosen Jessica Carmichael to be its next AD. She replaces Pablo Felices Luna, who departs the company in

November. He has been AD since 2007.

Carmichael, a director, actor, dramaturge and drama instructor, comes to Carousel from her most recent position as the artistic associate at Native

Earth Performing Arts in Toronto. Carmichael begins as artistic director at Carousel Players in February.

"I am honoured by this opportunity to devote myself to an organization

artistically vital to young audiences," Carmichael said in a release. "I look forward to developing and making theatre that is exciting, accessible and reflective of our youth's experiences."

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LOCAL NEWS

■ PORT COLBORNE

Memorial bench honours crash victim

DAN DAKIN

QMI Agency Niagara

There's a reason the new wooden bench near the Mellanby Ave. bridge in Port Colborne is at a distinct angle.

It's the same reason Susan Mack will make a point of visiting the bench on a regular basis.

Rather than facing the Welland Canal, the bench unveiled Saturday is intentionally angled to let those sitting on it to stare directly at the metal lift bridge.

It was at that bridge six years ago where Susan Mack's 24-year-old son, Josh, died when the car he was driving crashed through a barrier and went into the Welland Canal while the dock was raised.

On Saturday, as wet snowflakes rained down, a teary-eyed Mack and Josh's father, Adam Mack, pulled a cover off of a memorial plate in their son's memory on the new bench.

"It's meant to be a place of peace and reflection just to honour Josh's memory so nobody ever forgets, because I'll never forget," Susan said. "My grief doesn't end, but this is what I believe is a positive step for me. You can't describe how it feels to lose a child and there's no one who could understand that, but someone who has been through it."

After Josh's death on Aug. 7, 2008, the family worked for

nearly five years to get an extra barrier installed at the Mellanby Ave. canal crossing.

"My son died needlessly at this bridge and I worked extremely hard to get the St. Lawrence Seaway to renovate that bridge because my son should never have died there."

"Had this restraining gate been up when he died, he would have just had an accident," said Susan.

Adam Mack said the new memorial celebrates his son's "life and not his death," but also the safety improvements.

"They improved the bridge so it's a safer place for people to travel. It was very unsafe that night when he met his demise," he said.

However, Adam said he believes more should be done along the edges of the canal that run parallel to city streets.

"There's a lot of tourist traffic along the canal and if someone comes along here at night ... this is an accident waiting to happen," he said.

Josh's friend Corey Simon said the Ridgeway man's memory lives in other ways, as well.

"As much as he did in life, his legacy lives on. He's continually given back," he said, referring to a fundraising golf tournament and a high school scholarship in his name.



DAN DAKIN/QMI AGENCY NIAGARA

Susan Mack takes down memorial flowers for her son Josh in front of the Mellanby Ave. bridge in Port Colborne Saturday. A bench was installed nearby in memory of Josh Mack, who died at the site in 2008.

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Completed application forms may be submitted to the Municipal Office by personal delivery, post, email, or fax to the attention of Mr. Scott Luey, CAO/ Clerk (contact information provided below) no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, November 28th, 2014.

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(Across from Food Basics)

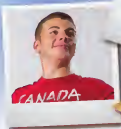
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READY FOR YOUR CLOSE-UP?

When you walk the red carpet at your local secondary school's open house, snap a selfie of you and your friends and post it to social media using the hashtag **#DSBNredcarpet**

LUCKY WINNERS will be chosen at random and given a **PAIR OF MOVIE PASSES** so you can enjoy the Hollywood experience with a friend.



When you come to a DSBN high school, you're in the starring role. In fact, the next four years are your time to stand out!

In our schools, you have the opportunity to define your stage and take the lead in your educational journey. This will be your time to try new things, meet new people and really test your limits.

Standing out means being yourself. Showcase what makes you unique. Consider what you're good at, what skills you'd like to develop and what makes you happy. Once you know what you want, work hard and go after it!

Also, know that our schools have the people, the programs and supports to help you define and achieve your goals.





You're the star on the **#DSBNRedCarpet**

PUTTING THE SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR SUCCESS:

Go Clubbing

Schools offer over 45 clubs ranging from Anime to Yoga.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Develop your leadership skills and
contribute to student life

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Make a difference in
your local community

From the Red Carpet to the Court

You can choose from 24 sports and activities

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJORS

Put a laser-like focus on your
education and excel in your
chosen specialty:

Agriculture	Hospitality
Arts and Culture	Information & Communications
Business	Technology
Construction	Manufacturing
Energy	Sports
Environment	Transportation
Health & Wellness	
Horticulture	

ACADEMICS

English, Math, Science
and so much more

STUDENT SUCCESS

Supports to help keep
you on track for
graduation

INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

DSBN schools are great
places to be. Everyone
is warmly welcomed.

Want to
know more?
Visit us
online at
www.dsbni.org

